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EXAMINER

PULLIAM, CHRISTYANN R

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2165

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/10/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/763,228

Applicant(s)

IIDA, KAZUE

Examiner

Christyann Pulliam

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(c).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 January 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

1. Claims 1 and 3-9 are pending as filed September 24, 2007. Claims 1 and 3-8 are Currently Amended. Claim 2 is Canceled. Claim 9 is New.
2. Prior art rejections remain, so this action is FINAL.

***Priority***

3. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file. The certified copy of the Japanese application is not in English and no translation was provided.

***Drawings***

4. The drawings are objected to because Figure 6 has a #3 which should correspond to a #3 on Figure 7, but Figure 7 has two #1s and no #3. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing

should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1, 5, and 8, and by way of dependence Claims 3, 4, and 6, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The process described is inconsistent. In the third recording step, a process ID is added to ID information when the authentication info is used to access an information retrieval site. Next, the authentication and ID information is read to prepare for accessing an information retrieval site. Then authentication information is transferred to information retrieval site. At this point, the claim states that the ID

information is blank. This does not seem possible because the third recording step added the process ID to the ID information. Therefore, at least that information is recorded in the ID information, making the information not blank. Accordingly Claims 1, 3-6 and 8 are indefinite.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Miller et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,807,539 (hereinafter Miller).

As for Claims 1, 5 and 8, Miller teaches:

recording a script definition in which a conversion function and an authentication function are defined for each of said information retrieval sites into storage, said conversion function converting a description of the search condition in compliance with a predetermined description rule into a description in compliance with a description rule of each of said information retrieval sites, and said authentication function being used

for an authentication procedure of each of said information retrieval sites that requires authentication as a condition to respond search results (See e.g. Miller – col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 22 and col. 7, lines 21-31 and Figure 5);

recording predetermined sets of authentication information and ID information into said storage for each of said information retrieval sites that require authentication and restrict number of accesses, the authentication information being assigned to said server by each of said information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller - col. 8, line 65- col. 9, 27, col. 4, lines 9-14 and col.1, lines 24-25);

recording a process ID into the ID information of one of the sets of the authentication information when the authentication information in the one of the sets is used to access a corresponding information retrieval site (See e.g. Miller – col. 8, lines 30-44 and col. 9, lines 9-27 – session IDs);

reading from said storage the script definition and a corresponding set of the authentication and ID information for one of said information retrieval sites designated by the user terminal (See e.g. Miller – col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 48 and col. 7, lines 21- 31 and Figure 5);

transmitting, to the one of said information retrieval sites, the authentication information in the corresponding set of the authentication information and the ID information when the ID information in the corresponding set is blank (See e.g. Miller – col.8, line 30- col. 9, line 8 and col. 7, lines 21-38 and col.8, lines 33-43);

receiving the authentication from the one of said information retrieval sites by executing the authentication function when the script definition for the one of said

information retrieval sites includes the authentication function (See e.g. Miller – col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 48 and col. 7, lines 21-31 and Figure 6);

converting said search condition designated by the user terminal into a search condition in compliance with a description rule of the one of said information retrieval sites by executing the conversion function in the script definition (See e.g. Miller – col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 22 and Figure 5);

transmitting the search request according to the converted search condition to the one of said information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller – col. 6, lines 15-22 and Figure 5);

receiving the search results from the one of said information retrieval sites that has retrieved information in response to said search request (See e.g. Miller – col. 6, lines 22-32 and Figure 5); and

transmitting the received search results to the user terminal (See e.g. Miller – col. 6, lines 42-48 and Figure 5).

As for Claim 3, Miller teaches the parent Claim 1. Miller also teaches further comprising: transmitting authentication information assigned by the one of said information retrieval sites to the one of said information retrieval sites according to the authentication function to receive the authentication from the one of said information retrieval sites when the script definition for the one of said information retrieval sites includes said authentication function (See e.g. Miller – col.8, line 30- col. 9, line 8 and

col. 7, lines 21-38).

As for Claim 4, Miller teaches the parent Claim 1. Miller also teaches wherein communication between said server and said user terminal, and communication between said server and said information retrieval sites use TCP/IP and HTTP, respectively (See e.g. Miller – Figure 1 – Internet uses TCP/IP and col. 5, lines 45-55 – HTTP).

As for Claim 6, Miller teaches the parent Claim 5. Miller also teaches wherein said cross-site search program is a Common Gateway Interface program (See e.g. Miller – Figures 3-4 and col. 8, lines 30-65, col. 2, lines 16-65 and col. 4, line 31-col. 59).

As for Claim 7, Miller teaches:

A computer readable medium encoded with a cross-site search program running on a computer connected to a user terminal and a number of information retrieval sites through a network, said program causing said computer to perform a method comprising:

accepting designation of one of said information retrieval sites with a search condition by said user terminal (See e.g. Miller – col. 2, lines 35-40);

identifying a script definition corresponding to the one of said information retrieval sites among a number of script definitions, said script definition defining a conversion



function that converts a description of the search condition in compliance with a predetermined description rule into a description in compliance with a description rule of the one of said information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller – col. 2, lines 40-65 and col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 22 and Figure 6);

identifying authentication information whose ID information is blank corresponding to the one of said information retrieval sites among predetermined sets of the authentication information and ID information that require authentication and restrict number of accesses, the authentication information being assigned to said server by each of said information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller - col. 8, lines 30-65 and col. 7, lines 21-38, blank is before session to that database has been started);

recording a process ID into ID information of one of the sets of the authentication information when the authentication information in the one of the sets is used to access a corresponding information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller -col. 8, line 30- col. 9, line 25);

transmitting, to the one of said information retrieval sites, the authentication information in a corresponding set of the authentication information and the ID information when the ID information in the corresponding set is blank (See e.g. Miller - col. 8, lines 30-65 and col. 7, lines 21-38, blank is before session to that database has been started);

receiving authentication from the one of said information retrieval sites by executing an authentication function when the script definition for the one of said

information retrieval sites includes said authentication function (See e.g. Miller – col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 48 and col. 7, lines 21-31 and Figure 6);

converting the search condition designated by the user terminal into a search condition in compliance with a description rule of the one of said information retrieval sites by executing the conversion function in the script definition (See e.g. Miller – col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 22 and Figure 5);

transmitting a search request according to the converted search condition to the one of said designated information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller – col. 6, lines 15-22 and Figure 5);

receiving the search results from the one of said information retrieval sites that has retrieved information in response to said search request (See e.g. Miller – col. 6, lines 22-32 and Figure 5); and

transmitting the received search results to the user terminal (See e.g. Miller – col. 6, lines 42-48 and Figure 5).

As for Claim 9, Miller teaches:

A computer system connected via at least one network to information retrieval sites and a terminal requesting information based on a search condition, comprising:

a network interface connected to the at least one network (See e.g. Miller – Figure 1);

a storage storing a script definition, including an authentication function, and storing predetermined sets of authentication information and ID information for each of

the information retrieval sites that requires authentication and that restrict number of accesses, the authentication information being assigned to said computer system by each of the information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller – col. 5, line 62- col. 6, line 22 and col. 7, lines 21-31 and col. 8, line 53-col. 9, lines 25); and

a processor, coupled to said network interface and said storage,

reading from said storage the script definition and a corresponding set of the authentication information and the ID information for one of the information retrieval sites (See e.g. Miller – col. 8, lines 30-64),

transmitting, via said network interface, the authentication information to the one of the information retrieval sites when ID information in the authentication information is blank (See e.g. Miller – col. 7, lines 20-25 and col. 8, lines 30-43 – blank when session has not started),

transmitting, via said network interface, a search request to the one of the information retrieval sites (See e.g. col. 7, lines 30-40 and Figure 6),

receiving search results via said network interface in response to the search request (See e.g. Miller – col. 7, lines 38-43 and col. 6, lines 32-48 and Figures 3-5), and

transmitting the search results to said terminal via said network interface (See e.g. Miller – col. 7, lines 38-43 and col. 6, lines 32-48 and Figures 3-5).

***Response to Arguments***

9. Applicant's arguments filed September 24, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

10. Applicant argues that Miller does not teach the limitations that have been added to the independent claims with this amendment. The Examiner disagrees because Miller teaches databases that require authentication and restrict number of accesses when it teaches access to propriety and subscription databases (See e.g. Miller – col. 1, lines 25-65 and col. 4, lines 10-14). These databases control the number of times the database can be accessed based on your subscription but can be accessed using the translators described in Miller. Miller also teaches a process ID in its session ID and management of multiple users (See e.g. Miller - col. 8, line 30- col. 9, line 26). Additionally, citations are proved above with the rejection. Therefore, Miller still anticipates the amended claims.

***Conclusion***

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

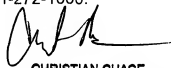
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christyann Pulliam whose telephone number is 571-270-1007. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9 am-6 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christian Chace can be reached on 571-272-4190. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CRFP  
CRFP

December 4, 2007



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